

CLAIMS

1. A method of managing the operation of a mobile terminal of a telecommunications network as a function of the geographical position of that mobile terminal,

the network being divided into geographical cells each corresponding to the coverage area of a base station adapted to exchange data with the mobile terminal by radio, the position of the mobile terminal being defined continuously when it is in operation by location data that is a function of at least one base station,

the method being of the type in which at least two separate geographical areas and at least one operating feature of the mobile terminal specific to each area are defined,

wherein

each area is geographically defined by location data that is a function of a set of base stations including at least one of the base stations contained in the area,

location data of the areas and operating features specific to the areas are stored in a memory of the mobile terminal,

location data of the mobile terminal is compared to the location data of the areas to deduce in which area the mobile terminal is located, and

the operating feature specific to an area is applied as soon as the mobile terminal is located in that area.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein at least one area is defined by location data that is a function of a reference base station and at least one other base station in the environment of the reference base station.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the location data of the areas and the operating features specific to the areas are entered directly via the mobile terminal or via data entry means connected to the terminal by a cable.

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the location data of the areas and the operating features specific to the areas are entered via data entry means separate from the mobile terminal and the data entered is sent to the mobile terminal electromagnetically.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein the data entered is sent to the mobile terminal by radio via the telecommunications network.

6. A method according to claim 1, wherein the operating features of the mobile terminal concern:

- adjusting an operating parameter of the mobile terminal as a function of its location, such as activating or deactivating a ringer or call forwarding, adjusting the local time, etc., and/or
- triggering an event, such as triggering a warning ringer, as a function of a change of location of the mobile terminal.

7. A method according to claim 1, wherein there is at least one area containing more than one base station.

8. A method according to claim 1, wherein there is at least one area associated with a plurality of operating features of the mobile terminal specific to that area.

9. A method according to claim 1, wherein there are more than two areas associated with a plurality of operating features of the mobile terminal specific to those areas.

10. A method according to claim 1, wherein reference data and operating features of the mobile terminal corresponding to that reference data are also stored in a memory of the mobile terminal, data sent to the mobile terminal by the base station

of the cell in which the mobile terminal is located is compared with the stored reference data, and

the operating feature of the mobile terminal corresponding to the stored reference data is applied as soon as that reference data matches the data sent by the base station of the cell in which the mobile terminal is located.

11. A method according to claim 1, wherein one operating feature of the mobile terminal concerns prohibition of modification by a user of data stored in the memory of the mobile terminal.